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**BILLINGE-AND-WINSTANLEY
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL**

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR 1970

BILLINGE-AND-WINSTANLEY URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

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Councillor J. M. Wellens, J.P.,

VICE-CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL

Councillor C. D. Saunders

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Councillor A. Atherton

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CLERK OF THE COUNCIL - E. Sharples, A.C.I.S., A.I.A.C.,

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

CHAIRMAN

Councillor F. Garner

VICE-CHAIRMAN

Councillor L. Grime

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

Dr. P. Lee, B.Sc., M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

J. R. Swift, M.A.P.H.I.

CLERK

Mrs. M. Fisher.

BILLINGE-AND-WINSTANLEY URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Council Offices,
BILLINGE,
Near Wigan.

To the Chairman and Members,
Billinge-and-Winstanley Urban District Council.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I have the pleasure of submitting to you the Annual Report for the health of the District for the year 1970, compiled in the form indicated by the Ministry of Health.

I take this opportunity of tendering my best thanks to the Officials of the Council, the Staff of the Public Health Department, and especially to the Public Health Inspector, for valuable help and co-operation at all times.

I desire to express also to the Members of the Council, my appreciation of the courtesy and consideration they have always displayed towards me.

I am Gentlemen,

Yours faithfully,

P. Lee,

Medical Officer of Health.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Area in acres	4596
Number of inhabited houses at end of the year according to the rate book (estimated)	3695
Rateable Value	£349,519
Sum represented by a penny rate	£1,370
Registrar General's estimate of the resident population mid 1970	10,830

Billinge and Winstanley is a pleasant Urban District situated midway between Wigan and St. Helens.

The main industries of the area are long-standing, and include farming, stone quarrying, brick and terra cotta manufacture, and some coal mining.

The Billinge Hospital, one of the largest hospitals in the Wigan and Leigh Hospital Management Committee area, is situated in the Higher End ward of the district, and employs a considerable amount of local female labour.

VITAL STATISTICS

BIRTHS

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	121	108	229
Illegitimate	1	2	3

The live birth rates per 1,000 of estimated home population are -

Crude Rate	21.4
Adjusted Rate	15.8
Ratio of local adjusted birth rate to National rate	0.99
Area comparability factor	0.74

STILLBIRTHS

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	1	2	3
Illegitimate	-	-	-

The stillbirth rate per 1,000 of total births is 13.

DEATHS

<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
73	48	121

The mortality rates per 1,000 of estimated home population are -

Crude rate	11.2
Adjusted Rate	12.8
Ratio of local adjusted death rate to National rate	1.09
Area comparability factor	1.14

INFANT MORTALITY

	Males			Females		
	Total	Legit.	Illegit.	Total	Legit.	Illegit
Under 1 year of age	4	3	1	-	-	-
Under 4 weeks of age	2	1	1	-	-	-
Under 1 week of age	2	1	1	-	-	-

Deaths of infants under 1 year of age rate per 1,000 of live births - 1

Perinatal rate per 1,000 of total births - 21

THE FOLLOWING TABLE SHOWS COMPARATIVE STATISTICS
IN RESPECT OF THE YEARS 1968 - 1969 - 1970

Year	Live Births		Deaths		Still Births		Maternal Mortality		Infant Mortality			
	Number Regis- tered	Rate per 1000 pop Crude Rate	Number Regis- tered	Rate per 1000 pop.	Number Regis- tered	Rate per 1000 total Births	Number of Deaths Regis- tered	Rate per 1000 total Births	Total		Neo-Natal	
									Number of Deaths Regis- tered	Rate per 1000 Live Births	Number of Deaths Regis- tered	Rate per 1000 Live Births
1968	251	24.8	117	11.5 crude 13.8 adj.	2	8	nil	nil	4	16	2	8
1969	261	24.8	110	10.5 crude 12.3 adj.	3	11	nil	nil	2	8	2	8
1970	235	21.4	121	11.2 crude 12.8 adj.	3	13	nil	nil	4	17	2	9

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF THE HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA

Ambulance Facilities

Ambulance Facilities are provided by the County Council and the Ambulance Station which serves this district, and the neighbouring authorities, is situated in the Higher End area of the district in close proximity to the hospital.

During the year the service has proved satisfactory.

Home Nursing

Under the provision of the National Health Service Act, 1946, home nursing facilities are provided by the Lancashire County Council.

HOSPITALS AND OTHER FACILITIES AVAILABLE IN THE DISTRICT

Hospitals

Situated in the Northern end of the district is Billinge Hospital. This is one of the largest hospitals in the North West.

There is a total of 510 beds, and specialities at the hospital include Maternity, Gynaecological, Dental, General Surgical, Plastic Surgery, General Medicine, Psychiatric and Orthopedic.

Extensive alterations, modernisation and enlargement of the hospital is taking place. During the year work was started on a new 160 bedded Geriatric Unit which is expected to be completed during the Summer of 1972. This Unit will provide some of the most modern facilities for the treatment and rehabilitation of the elderly in the North West.

Hospitals are available at Manchester and Liverpool for special cases. Infectious cases requiring isolation are usually cared for at the Whelley Hospital, Wigan.

Maternity and Child Welfare.

An anti-natal clinic is available at Billinge Hospital for this and the adjoining districts.

A modern welfare clinic which was built during 1966 is situated in Rainford Road. This clinic is very well attended especially by the families in the Chapel End of the district.

Generally, families in the Higher End part of the district attend the Orrell clinic, and those in the Pemberton Road area attend the clinic at Highfield, Wigan.

Laboratory Facilities

Laboratories of the Public Health Laboratories Service are situated at Witherington Hospital, Manchester and Wigan Infirmary, Wigan for Bacteriological and Pathological specimens.

Samples and specimens for chemical analysis are submitted to the County Analyst, Lancashire County Council, Preston.

These facilities have proved quite adequate and satisfactory.

PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS DISEASESCases of Infectious Diseases notified during the year.

The following is a list of Notifiable Diseases notified during the year.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE	Total Cases at all ages	Total Cases Notified								
		AGE PERIODS - YEARS								
		0-	1-	2-	3-	4-	5-	10-	15-	25 & over
Measles (exclud- ing Rubella)	126	2	15	18	20	26	43	1	-	-
Scarlet Fever	2	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-
Infective Jaundice	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Whooping Cough	48	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

There were no deaths from Infectious Diseases during the year.

Food Poisoning.

There were three cases of food poisoning, all members of the same family, notified during the year. *Salmonella Typhimurium* was the infective organism and the family developed the symptoms immediately on returning from a holiday in Sardinia.

Tuberculosis

The County Council are responsible for the prevention and after-care of cases of Tuberculosis. Diagnosis and treatment is carried out by the specialist chest physician of the Regional Hospital Board and by general practitioners. All cases of Tuberculosis from the Billinge and Winstanley Urban District attend the Chest Clinic, Millgate, Wigan. There were no cases notified and no deaths from Tuberculosis during the year.

Vaccination and Immunisation

The following figures show the number of children under sixteen years of age in the area who were vaccinated and immunised during the year:-

Children Protected Against:-	Primary	Re-Inforcement
Diphtheria	222	208
Whooping Cough	212	43
Tetanus	222	206
Poliomyelitis	221	208
Measles	139	-
Smallpox	106	2
Rubella	11	-

CAUSES OF DEATH AT DIFFERENT PERIODS OF LIFE DURING 1970

Cause of Death	Sex	Total all ages	Under 4 weeks	Weeks 4 & under 1 year	Age in Years										c
					1-	5-	15-	25-	35-	45-	55-	65-			
Enteritis and other Diarrhoeal Diseases	M	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases	M	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Malignant Neoplasm, Intestine.	M	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus.	M	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	2	-	-	
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Malignant Neoplasm, Breast.	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	F	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	-	-	-	
Leukaemia	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	
Other Malignant Neoplasms	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	
	F	6	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	
Diabetes Mellitus	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Avitaminoses, etc.	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	
Other Diseases of Nervous System.	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Chronic Rheumatic Heart Disease	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Ischaemic Heart Disease	M	17	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	2	9	-	-	
	F	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	3	-	-	
Other Forms of Heart Disease	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	
	F	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Cerebrovascular Disease	M	11	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	2	-	-	
	F	9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	
Other Diseases of Circulatory System	M	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	3	-	-	
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Influenza	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Pneumonia	M	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	-	-	-	
	F	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	
Bronchitis and Emphysema	M	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	4	-	-	
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	
Other Diseases of Respiratory System	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Cirrhosis of Liver	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Other Diseases of Digestive System	M	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Nephritis and Nephroses	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	

CAUSES OF DEATH AT DIFFERENT PERIODS OF LIFE DURING 1970

Contd.....

Cause of Death	Sex	Total all ages	Under 4 weeks	4 Weeks & under 1 year	Age in Years								
					1-	5-	15-	25-	35-	45-	55-	65-	75 & over
Other Diseases, Genito-Urinary System	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Diseases of Musculo-Skeletal System	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Congenital Anomalies	M	3	-	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Birth Injury, Difficult Labour etc.	M	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other Causes of Perinatal Mortality	M	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Symptoms and ill Defined Conditions	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
All other Accidents	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Suicide and Self- Inflicted Injuries	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
TOTAL ALL CAUSES	M	73	2	2	2	-	-	-	4	3	14	25	21
	F	48	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	3	4	11	28

WATER

Every dwelling within the district is supplied with public mains water supplied, with the exception of two dwellings, direct to the properties. Due to the isolation of the two houses they are supplied by stand-pipe.

The Statutory Water Undertaking for the area is the St. Helens Water Board, and this authority is responsible for ensuring that the district is supplied with a sufficient and wholesome water supply.

The water supply is from two main sources - upland service water from Rivington, and deep well water from Knowsley. The extreme Northern end of the district receives its supply from the Makerfield Water Board. Generally, throughout the area the supply has been satisfactory both in quality and quantity.

The average daily consumption for the year was 37.85 gallons per head.

Routine sampling of water for both chemical and bacteriological examination is carried out by the Water Board and also by the Council's Public Health Inspector. There were six samples of water taken by the Public Health Inspector for bacteriological examination, and all samples were reported as satisfactory.

No analysis of fluoride content has been obtained during 1970. The fluoride content of water for the previous year did not exceed .12 parts per million.

During the year extension of the services included 130 yards of main for private development at Fir View, Billinge.

The automatic booster plant installed at Crank Reservoir came into operation so that the whole of the Chapel End area is now provided with water from the new Booster Station, Rivington water being supplied only in case of emergency.

The above information has kindly been supplied by:-

Mr. R.F. Miller, B.Sc., M.I.C.E., M.I.W.E.,

Water Engineer,

County Borough of St. Helens.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

The whole of the district has been provided with main drainage with the exception of the hamlet of Kings Moss, and some isolated villages and areas.

There are two sewerage disposal works:-

- (a) Chapel End Works, for the Southern area of the district, known mainly as the Chapel End area of the district.
- (b) Higher End Works,, which serves the Northern area of the district.

Pemberton Road in the Winstanley part of the district discharges into the Wigan Corporation sewer, and a small portion of Upholland Road in the Northern end of the district into the Skelmersdale and Holland U.D.C. main sewer for ultimate treatment at Wigan Corporation Sewerage Works at Hosker.

Chapel End Works

This is a modern plant which was constructed in 1958. The Plant comprises detritus channels, pyramidal upward flow settling tanks, percolating filters, and humus tanks together with storm tanks and sludge beds.

The original works were designed for a population of 4,000 based on a water consumption of 30 gallons per head per day.

For the past few years these Works have been grossly overloaded due to the population increase, and also to the increased water consumption. The population now served is in excess of 6,000, and the water consumption is 37.85 gallons per head per day. Furthermore, considerable quantities of surface water, and unfiltered sub-soil water has been gaining access into the drainage system. For these reasons it has been extremely difficult to maintain a reasonable effluent, and at times the storm tank has been overflowing continuously for many days.

Higher End Works

This modern sewerage works comprising of detritus tanks, sedimentation tanks, percolating filters, humus tanks and storm water overflow tank was completed in 1959.

Due to increase in the population the Works are now overloaded, and the Council are deciding whether to,

a) abandon the Works and discharge the whole of the sewerage from the Higher End of the district into the Orrell main sewers for final treatment at the Wigan County Borough Sewerage Works at Hoscarr,

or b) alternatively the Council may retain the existing Works for the reduced flow and discharge the excess flow into the Orrell Sewers for treatment at the Wigan Sewerage Works.

Notwithstanding the overloaded conditions of the sewerage works they have been well maintained, although the effluent at the Chapel End works has often been below the River Authority's consent standard.

SANITARY ACCOMMODATION EXISTING AT THE END OF 1970

Number of dwellings on the water carriage system	3,669
Number of dwellings not on the water carriage system	27
Number of fresh water closets	4,250 approx.
Number of moveable dustbins	4,668
Number of pail closets	4
Number of privy middens	26
Number of closets attached to privy middens	29

Scheme to Convert 12 Houses at Present with Privy Middens to Water Closets, and the Improvement of the Houses at Kings Moss.

The Council approved a small drainage scheme comprising of a main drain, septic tank and sub-soil irrigation scheme to enable twelve houses to have their unsanitary privy middens replaced by water closets, and the houses be provided with bathrooms. The cost of the small treatment works and drain is £1,000 and, subject to the necessary easements being obtained, it is hoped the work will be able to commence in the early part of next year.

Owners and occupiers alike are anxious for the work to be carried out and for the houses to be brought up to a satisfactory state of repair and provided with modern facilities.

PUBLIC CLEANSING

The Public Health Inspector is responsible for the supervision of public cleansing which includes refuse collection and disposal, and other miscellaneous matters including the implementation of the Civic Amenities Act.

The refuse collection service employs 12 men including 2 drivers and the foreman. There are 2 refuse collection vehicles:-

- a) One Dennis Paxit Compression vehicle. This vehicle was purchased in 1966. It gives a far greater compaction of refuse, and is found to be very economical especially for the outlying districts where the length of haulage is great.
- b) One 18 cu. yd. Dual Tip Karrier. This vehicle was purchased new during the year to replace the existing vehicle of the same manufacture. It has been found that this type of vehicle is a good secondary vehicle as it is exceedingly useful for collecting the increasing number of items of bulky refuse, and also for the cleaning of ash pits, rubbish dumps and similar work.

Servicing of Vehicles

The refuse drivers service the vehicles, and cleanse them each week. Three monthly servicing at an approved garage is also carried out. Unfortunately this generally has not been satisfactory and the Council decided to transfer the servicing, and all repair and maintenance work to the Lancashire County Council. The Lancashire County Council Transport Department Garage is situated at Bamber Bridge near Preston, and is conveniently accessible by motorway. In addition they have an emergency service which is most beneficial.

REFUSE COLLECTION SERVICE

The normal method of storage of refuse by the householder is still the galvanised iron dustbin which is supplied and maintained by the owner or occupier. The Council sell standard galvanised dustbins at a competitive price to householders within the district.

The weekly collection service of refuse has been carried out and maintained throughout the whole of the year except for the occasional lapse due to holidays and sickness. To maintain this service, even when there is absenteeism, overtime is worked.

Illegal dumping of rubbish and junk continues to be a problem. Dumping is taking place in the various lay-bys, beauty spots and vacant plots of land which exist.

During the year 25 "No Tipping" signs were erected. To maintain the district reasonably tidy the unauthorised tips are cleared by the refuse collection team working on Saturday mornings. Most of the dumped rubbish comprises of builders refuse, garden rubbish or beds and other unwanted household effects. Discussions have taken place with the Police with a view to prosecuting the offenders.

The refuse collectors themselves will move free of charge all unwanted household furniture, and other miscellaneous items including limited amounts of garden refuse, and free facilities are available for householders to dispose of the larger type of garden rubbish.

Satisfactory facilities are available for the free disposal of unwanted vehicles at a breakers' yard in St. Helens. During the year 33 enquiries were received from owners of vehicles, and they were given the name and address of a local contractor who removes vehicles free of charge, or for a small sum, depending on the condition and accessibility of the vehicles. The dumping of unwanted vehicles is not a problem within the district.

TRADE REFUSE

The Council undertake to remove trade refuse from all shops within the district, and an annual charge is made for the service.

A weekly collection service is carried out for the smaller shops, larger shops have a twice or thrice weekly collection, as required. A more frequent collection is necessary in the case of large supermarkets where a considerable amount of refuse is produced.

THE DISPOSAL OF REFUSE

Disposal of refuse is by controlled tipping. The Council are fortunate in having at their disposal a large disused quarry which the Council purchased during 1966.

It is considered that the Council have adequate tipping facilities for several years.

CIVIC AMENITIES ACT 1967

Part III of the Act which deals with the unauthorised dumping of rubbish and abandonment of motor vehicles came into force on 27th July, 1967. The unauthorised dumping of rubbish in the district continued to be a problem.

The Council carried out a free collection and disposal service for all unwanted household furniture, bedding, etc., and also removed limited amounts of garden refuse. There were 389 requests for the removal of these items. Twelve vehicles were removed by owners following informal action by the Public Health Inspector.

RODENT AND PEST CONTROL

Rodent Control

Rodent Control is carried out by one part time operator and the cleansing foreman, both of whom have attended the Ministry of Agriculture training scheme on rodent control.

A free disinfestation service for the destruction of rats and mice is operated for all private houses. For business premises a small nominal charge is made for the service.

Farmers and occupiers of factories may take out annual contracts with the Council. Regular and systematic inspections are made at the Council's sewerage works and refuse tip and all public sewers are baited and treated twice yearly in accordance with the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food recommendations. Generally the sewers are free from rats.

SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS AND TREATMENTS RE RODENT CONTROL

	<u>Non-Agricultural</u>	<u>Agricultural</u>
Number of properties in district	3798	46
Number of properties inspected following notification.	170	18
Number of properties inspected for reasons other than notification.	26	22
Number of properties infested by rats	75	17
Number of properties infested by mice.	63	7

Warfarin is the rodenticide used by the Council, this is particularly safe and effective for dealing with rat infestations. With regard to mice infestations, reports were received of the rodents being Warfarin-resistant. Alphakil was substituted and in each case the infestations were speedily cleared.

DISINFESTATION OF INSECTS.

Free disinfection of cockroaches and similar insects is carried out at Council Houses. For private houses a small nominal charge is made.

During the year 25 complaints were received. Disinfection was carried out at 10 Council dwellings and 7 private houses. Complaints mainly referred to wasps, spiders, earwigs and black ants.

RIVERS, STREAMS AND WATERCOURSES.

During the year routine inspections were made of the various streams and watercourses. Occasionally watercourses are infested by rats and pollution occurs from discharge from septic tanks, faulty drains and sewers.

A serious case of pollution at Blackbrook, which is situated in the Chapel End Area and which discharges into Carr Mill Dam, occurred during the dry summer, the cause was due to an obstruction in the Council's main sewer and resulted in sewage entering the brook from storm water overflow. Unfortunately, the obstruction was not discovered for several days and there was a considerable loss of life of fish in the pond and dam.

CESSPOOL EMPTYING.

There are several septic tanks within the district. Apart from the hamlet of Kings Moss the septic tanks are at isolated farms and cottages.

In addition there is the Council cesspool which serves 9 houses at Kings Moss.

The Council do not have a cesspool emptier of their own but hire a tanker from a local farmer. The large cesspool at Kings Moss is emptied twice weekly.

Septic tanks generally are only emptied at the request of householders and for this service the Council make a nominal charge of £2.

The Public Health Inspector has advised on the conversion of the existing cesspool to a septic tank at Kings Moss.

PUBLIC CONVENIENCES

Sanitary conveniences for both sexes are situated in Main Street. These are very unsatisfactory in design and construction and no washing facilities are provided. Considerable damage due to vandalism occurs.

It is proposed to replace these conveniences with a modern sanitary block in the near future.

In the Higher End of the district a modern toilet block has been provided. This is situated just within the hospital curtilage and is provided for the use of visitors to the hospital and is also available to the general public.

HAIRDRESSING ESTABLISHMENTS

There are 4 ladies hairdressing establishments within the district and 2 hairdressing salons for men.

Generally the premises are very satisfactory, are of modern construction, properly equipped and well maintained.

NOISE ABATEMENT ACT 1960

Six complaints were received and these were dealt with by the Public Health Inspector. I am glad to say these were dealt with informally and no statutory action was necessary.

AGRICULTURE (SAFETY, HEALTH AND WELFARE PROVISIONS) ACT, 1956

This Act imposes the duty on Local Authorities to ensure that suitable and sufficient sanitary accommodation is provided for employees at farms and agricultural holdings. This does not only entail the provision of suitable accommodation within the farmyard for the regular workers but also, where necessary, the provision of temporary accommodation in the fields for the seasonable workers including separate accommodation for men and women.

There were nine official inspections made during the year and the accommodation was reported as inadequate in respect of three farms.

CLEAN AIR AND ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION

There are at present no smoke control areas within the District and no survey has yet been made with a view to the establishment of an area within the near future.

No complaints of smoke nuisances were received apart from problems associated with the Brick & Tile Works. There is very little pollution from industrial sources.

CAMPS AND CARAVAN SITES

There were no caravans in permanent occupation during the year and no licenses were issued under the Caravan Sites and Controlled Development Act, 1960.

One temporary site was used for caravans and one temporary site used for camping and both were inspected and found satisfactory.

HOUSING

Only slow progress was made in the improvement of old houses. It is intended to carry out a survey to ascertain the number of sub-standard houses and the number of houses which would qualify for Standard and Improvement Grants.

There were no reports of any serious overcrowding.

Applicants for Council house accommodation were mainly from the newly married couples and at the end of the year there were 25 applicants on the list. The approximate waiting period was 15 months. In addition there were 22 applicants for old aged person ground floor flats and bungalows.

Generally the overall standard of housing accommodation in the Urban District is very satisfactory there are no proposed slum clearance areas.

HOUSING STATISTICS

1. Number of new dwellings erected during the year

	<u>Houses</u>	<u>Flats</u>
(i) By the Local Authority	nil	nil
(ii) By other Local Authorities	nil	nil
(iii) By other bodies or persons	45	4

TOTAL NUMBER OF DWELLINGS OWNED BY ANY LOCAL AUTHORITY EXISTING AT
END OF YEAR ... 602.

2. Inspections of Dwellings during the year under the Housing and Public Health Acts.

- (a) Total number of dwellings inspected formally
and informally for housing defects (under
the Public Health or Housing Acts).

236

HOUSING cont....

- | | |
|---|-----|
| (b) Number of inspections formal or informal made for the purpose. | 379 |
| (c) Number of dwellings in (a) above found to be not in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation but capable of being rendered fit. | 50 |

Total number of dwellings existing at end of year occupied or not, which were unfit for human habitation and not capable at reasonable expense of being rendered fit and in respect of which:-

- | | |
|--|----|
| (a) Demolition, Clearance or Closing Order have been made (at any time). | 24 |
| (b) Demolition, Clearance or Closing Orders have not yet been made. | 16 |

HOUSES DEMOLISHED

		Displaced during the year from houses to be demolished or closed	
In or adjoining Clearance Areas:-	<u>Number</u>	<u>Persons</u>	<u>Families</u>
(i) Houses unfit for human habitation	nil	nil	nil
(ii) Houses included by reason of bad arrangements etc.	nil	nil	nil
(iii) Houses on land acquired under S.43(2), Housing Act, 1957.	nil	nil	nil
Not in or Adjoining Clearance Areas:-			
(iv) As a result of formal or informal procedure under S.16 or S 17(1), Housing Act, 1957.	nil	Nil	nil
(v) Local Authority owned houses certified unfit by the Medical Officer of Health.	nil	nil	nil
(vi) Houses unfit for human habitation where action has been taken under local Acts.	nil	nil	nil
(vii) Unfit houses included in Unfitness Orders	nil	nil	nil

UNFIT HOUSES CLOSED.

- | | | | |
|---|---|-----|-----|
| (i) Under S.16(4), S.17(1) and S.35(1), Housing Act, 1957 and S.26, Housing Act, 1961 | 1 | | |
| (ii) Under S.17(3) and S.26 Housing Act, 1957. | - | nil | nil |
| (iii) Parts of buildings closed under S.18 Housing Act, 1957 | - | nil | nil |

UNFIT HOUSES MADE FIT

- | | |
|---|---|
| (i) By owner after informal action by local authority | 7 |
|---|---|

HOUSING cont...UNFIT HOUSES MADE FIT Cont...Number

- | | |
|---|-----|
| (ii) After formal notice under S.9 and S.16
Housing Act, 1957 - | |
| (a) by owner | nil |
| (b) by local authority | nil |
| (iii) After formal notice under Public Health Acts | 8 |
| (iv) After modification or revocation of a Clearance
order under S.24, Housing Act, 1961 | nil |
| (v) After determination of a demolition order under
S.24, Housing Act, 1957. | nil |

UNFIT HOUSES IN TEMPORARY USE - HOUSING ACT, 1957

There are no unfit houses in temporary use under the Housing Act, 1957.

PURCHASE OF HOUSES BY AGREEMENT

	<u>Number of Houses</u>	<u>Number of Occupants of houses in Col.1</u>
	(1)	(2)
Houses in clearance areas other than those included in confirmed orders or compulsory purchase orders.	nil	nil

IMPROVEMENT OF HOUSES

Housing (Financial Provisions) Act, 1958
and Housing Act, 1969 - Improvement grants etc.

	<u>Number of dwellings or other buildings affected</u>	
Action during year -	<u>Owner occupied</u>	<u>Local Authority</u>
(i) Submitted by private individuals to local authority	6	nil
(ii) Approved by local authority	5	nil
(iii) Submitted by local authority to Ministry	nil	nil
(iv) Finally approved by Ministry	nil	nil
(v) Work completed	5	nil
(vi) Additional separate dwellings included in (v) above	nil	nil

HOUSE PURCHASE AND HOUSING ACT, 1959 AND
HOUSING ACTS, 1961, 1964 AND 1969 - STANDARD GRANTS.

Action during year -	<u>Number of dwellings or other buildings affected.</u>	
(i) Applications submitted to local authority for improvement to		
(a) full standard	8	
(b) reduced standard	nil	
(ii) Total applications approved by local authority for improvement to		
(a) full standard	6	
(b) reduced standard	nil	

HOUSING cont...

STANDARD GRANTS cont...

Action during year:

Number of dwellings
or other buildings
affected

(iii) Work completed

5

(iv) Particulars of any action taken relating
to compulsory improvement of dwellings.

nil

HOUSING ACT, 1969 - SPECIAL GRANTS

Action during year:

Number of dwellings
or other buildings
affected

Owner
occupied

Others

(i) Applications submitted to local
authority for special grant

nil

nil

(ii) Applications approved by local
authority for improvement by special
grant

nil

nil

(iii) Work completed

nil

nil

LANCASHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL (GENERAL POWERS) ACT, 1968
S.17

No action was taken during the year.

HOUSING ACT, 1957, S.92

No action was taken during the year.

HOUSING CONDITIONS

Approximate number of

(i) back-to-back houses

nil

(ii) back-to-earth houses

nil

(iii) other houses without through ventilation

3

MOVABLE DWELLINGS AND CAMPING SITES (OTHER THAN H.M. FORCES)

(i) No. of sites in the area which were used
for camping purposes during 1969

2

(ii) No. of licences in force at end of 1969
issued under Section 269 of the Public
Health Act 1936 in respect of

(a)
Sites

(b)
Individual
movable
dwellings

nil

nil

(iii) No. of caravans permanently occupied

nil

(iv) Any action under Part IV of Lancashire
County Council (General Powers) Act 1951

nil

(v) No. of site licences issued under Caravan
Sites and Control of Development Act
1960, and in operation at end of year

nil

(vi) No. of caravans concerned in (v) above

nil

HOUSING cont...

MOVABLE DWELLINGS AND CAMPING SITES cont...

- (vii) Has Council adopted Model Standards issued by Ministry of Housing and Local Government for sites in respect of -

(a) Permanent caravan sites	No
(b) Holiday caravan sites	No

- (viii) Any other special action taken by local authority with regard to tents, vans, sheds etc. Nil

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT 1963

This Act provides for ensuring the health, safety and welfare of persons employed in Offices, Shops and Railway Premises. It requires the registration of premises either with the Local Authority or H.M. Factory Inspector.

The total number of premises registered with the Local Authority at the end of the year was as follows:-

Offices	4
Retail Shops	23
Catering Establishments	3

The number of premises newly registered during the year was 2.

The number of persons employed in such premises at the end of the year was 30 males and 79 females.

The total number of visits made by the Public Health Inspector was 22. A total of 35 contraventions were observed and these related mainly to the following:-

- (a) absence of or incomplete first aid equipment
- (b) absence of adequate heating facilities
- (c) absence of a thermometer
- (d) absence of Abstract of the Act
- (e) inadequate lighting of the workrooms
- (f) general disrepair.

FACTORIES AND WORKPLACES

Inspections made under the Factories Act 1961

Premises	Number on Register	Number of	
		Inspection	Written Notices
1. Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities.	2	nil	nil
2. Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	10	3	1
3. Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers premises).	6	4	2
TOTAL	18	7	3

FACTORIES AND WORKPLACES cont...

Two contraventions of the Act were observed and these were remedied during the year.

There were no prosecutions instituted under the Act.

OUTWORKERS

One outworker engaged in the manufacture of gloves was registered under Part 8 of the above Act.

RAG FLOCK AND OTHER MATERIALS ACT 1951

There are no premises registered or licenced under the above Act.

PUBLIC SWIMMING BATHS

There are no Public Swimmong Baths or Pools in the district. There are none provided at any of the schools.

The schools use the Wigan Corporation Public Baths.

OFFENSIVE TRADES

There are no offensive trades in the district.

COMMON LODGING HOUSES

There are no common lodging houses within the district.

SCHOOLS

There are 6 schools within the district. Conditions are generally much improved, all schools having water closets, a constant supply of hot water and wash basins.

An inspection of school kitchens was made during the year and these were found to be satisfactory.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

The inspection and supervision of food is one of the most important duties of the Public Health Inspector. The work entails the inspection of premises where food is prepared, manufactured, stored and sold and also the inspection and supervision of vehicles for the transport of food.

Systematic sampling of food for bacteriological and chemical analysis is carried out, also constant inspections are required to ensure the maintenance of satisfactory standards of hygiene.

During the year a total of 102 visits and inspections were made of food premises by the Public Health Inspector. The conditions generally continue to improve and the standard of personal hygiene of staff is improving.

All premises with the exception of one have been provided with adequate wash basins, sinks and hot and cold water supplies.

Food Premises

Number of Premises and Types within the District -

General Grocers and Provision Dealers	...	...	24
Greengrocers and fruiterers	...	...	4
Meat Shops	...	...	5

Food Premises cont...

Bakers and/or Confectioners	...	...	...	...	3
Fried Fish Shops	...	...	...	...	2
Fish Mongers	...	...	...	...	1
Shops selling mainly sugared confectionery minerals, ice-cream etc.	...	...	...	...	6
Licenced premises, clubs, canteens, cafes and similar shops	...	...	...	...	21

FOOD HAWKERS

Hawkers of meat, fish and fruit and vegetables are required to register with the Local Authority under the Lancashire County Council (Rivers Board and General Powers) Act 1951.

Food hawkers are required to comply with the Food Hygiene (Market Stalls and Delivery Vehicles) Regulations 1966. These regulations provide for a high standard of hygiene, construction and equipment and require the provision of adequate facilities for washing and sinks in certain types of business are also necessary.

Regular and systematic inspections are required to ensure that vehicles and premises where vehicles are stored are satisfactory and comply with the Regulations.

The number of food hawkers registered by this Authority is 20.

MILK SUPPLY

The Milk and Dairies General Regulations 1959 require all persons carrying on the trade of distributing milk from premises within the district and all premises used as dairies other than dairy farms to be registered with the Local Authority.

The number of distributors registered by the Local Authority and operating from -

- (a) Dairies within the district - 4
- (b) From shops within the district other than dairies - 10.

MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATION) REGULATIONS 1960

These Regulations require all dealers other than producers to hold a licence from the Lancashire County Council who are the Food and Drug Authority for the district.

Milk Sampling

The number of milk samples taken by the Public Health Inspector for submission to the statutory tests are as follows:-

- 8 samples submitted to the Methylene Blue Test
- 6 samples submitted to the Phosphatase Test
- 2 samples of raw milk submitted to the Brucella Ring Test
- 1 sample submitted to the Turbidity Test

It is pleasing to know that all samples were found satisfactory.

ICE CREAM

There was one ice cream factory situated in the district but this ceased production during the year. The premises are now used as a dairy for the storage of bottled milk.

There are 18 shops registered for the sale of ice cream.

Three samples of loose ice cream were submitted to the Laboratory and were found to comply with the Methylene Blue Test, one sample being Grade 1 and 2 samples Grade 2.

SLAUGHTERHOUSES AND MEAT INSPECTIONS

There are no slaughterhouses within the district.

POULTRY INSPECTION

There are no poultry slaughtering premises within the district. Several of the farms supply ready-dressed poultry during the festive season, the birds are killed and dressed on the farm premises.

Four inspections were made of these premises and advice and instruction given with a view to improving the premises and personal hygiene.

Dr. P. Lee,
Divisional Medical Officer of Health.

J. R. Swift,
Public Health Inspector.

JRS/SA
4th October, 1972.



